

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A composite material containing a reinforcing resin and reinforcing fibers, the reinforcing fibers having a coating containing polyphenylene sulfide, ~~characterised in that the~~wherein a proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.001 to < 0.01 percent by weight.

2. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.002 to 0.009 wt.%.

3. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the coating ~~consists of~~comprises polyphenylene sulfide and a thermoplastic or duroplastic material.

4. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 3~~Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing resin is a thermoplastic or a mixture of thermoplastics.

5. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 4~~Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing fibers are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, ~~synthetic or~~synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~production of~~producing a composite material comprising the steps

a) ~~provision of~~providing reinforcing fibers that have been optionally pretreated ~~if required~~,

b) ~~application of~~applying a coating containing polyphenylene sulfide on the reinforcing fibers of step a), such that the coating contains 0.001 to < 0.01 wt.% of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the reinforcing fibers, resulting in ~~the~~ production of coated reinforcing fibers, and

c) processing ~~of the~~ coated reinforcing fibers of step b) into a composite material, using with a reinforcing resin.

7. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing fibers of step a) are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, ~~synthetic or synthetic~~, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.

8. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 6 ~~or 7~~, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the carbon reinforcing fibers of step a) have been pretreated by electrochemical oxidation.

9. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one or more of Claims 6 to 8~~Claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing fibers of step a) are conducted through a bath containing a suspension of polyphenylene sulfide, dried and wound up in step b).

10. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the bath also contains a solution of a thermoplastic.

11. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one or more of Claims 6 to 10~~Claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the coated reinforcing fibers in step c) are processed in ~~the a~~ form of filament yarns, short fibers, woven, braided, knitted or crocheted fabrics, nonwovens, ~~or uni~~unidirectional scrims or multidirectional scrim into a composite material.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the composite material according to one or more of Claims 1 to 5, or of composite material produced according to one or more of Claims 6 to 11, for production of components~~ Components for aircraft construction, automobile

construction, machine construction or plant construction, and ~~for production of medical components,~~ comprised of the composite material according to claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) Reinforcing fibers having a coating containing polyphenylene sulfide, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein a proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to ~~the~~ uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.001 to < 0.01 wt.%.

14. Reinforcing fibers according to Claim 13, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.002 to 0.009 wt.%.

15. (Currently Amended) Reinforcing fibers according to ~~Claims 13 or 14~~ Claim 13, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the coating ~~consists of~~ comprises polyphenylene sulfide and a thermoplastic or duroplastic.

16. (Currently Amended) Reinforcing fibers according to ~~one or more of Claims 13 to 15~~ Claim 13, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the reinforcing fibers are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, ~~synthetic~~ or synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.